a2

is selected from crop plants.

a3

14. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 12, wherein said genetic modification comprises inhibiting the expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of *AtST2a*, *AtST2b* and functional homologues of *AtST2a* or of *AtST2b*.

a4

17. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 12, wherein said plant is transgenic.

18. (Amended) A cut flower from the genetically modified plant of claim 12.

a5

27. (Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein said plant is transgenic.

a6

31. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 29, wherein said genetic modification comprises increasing the expression of at least one gene selected from the group consisting of *AtST2a*, *AtST2b* and functional homologues of *AtST2a* or *AtST2b*.

a7

33. (Amended) The genetically modified plant of claim 29, wherein said plant is transgenic.

a8

39. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of

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[39. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of] claim 36, wherein the hydroxyjasmonic acid sulfotransferase is of *Arabidopsis thaliana* origin.

40. (Amended) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 36.

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42. (Amended) A transgenic plant comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 36.

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47. (Amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the hydroxyjasmonic acid sulfotransferase is a 11- or a 12-hydroxyjasmonic acid sulfotransferase.

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50. (Amended) An antibody binding with affinity to a polypeptide as defined in claim 48.

REMARKS

Claims 1-51 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 12, 19, 29, 34, 36, 40, 43, 45, 48 and 50 being independent. Claims 9, 11, 14, 17, 18, 27, 31, 33, 39, 40, 42, 47 and 50 have been amended in this Preliminary Amendment to remove all multiple dependencies.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and request prompt issuance of a Notice thereof. However, if the